

CLAIMS

1. Device for closing the front flap in a self-dimensioning machine for closing the upper flaps of parallelepiped boxes of the type comprising a base with support surface for the boxes, a couple of drive belts that can be motorised placed at the two sides of said support surface and that can be brought close to each other to make a drive engagement with the sides of the boxes, a head above said support surface, that carries devices for closing the front, rear and side flaps of the boxes and can be commanded to descend from a rest position to engage the above-mentioned devices with the upper flaps of the boxes and provide for closing them, and means for detecting the position and the dimensions of the boxes for the automatic command of the movements of the machine, characterised in that it comprises a rod for straightening and partially closing the front flap, that is pivoted on said head and is stressed to keep itself flexibly in a vertical position, a vertically mobile touching group for detecting the height of the boxes and successively to said head in the advancement direction of the boxes, a longitudinal central guide for completing the closing of the front flap, which is carried by said touching group so as to position itself in a horizontal position above said support surface at a height corresponding to the height detected of the boxes for meeting the front flap partially closed by said straightening rod and to complete its movement to the closing position.

2. Device according to claim 1, characterised in that said head is fitted with means for detecting the height of the boxes in input with flaps open and with means for positioning it at a height corresponding to that of the height detected by said detecting means.

3. Device according to claim 1, characterised in that said rod for straightening and partially closing the front flap is flexibly kept in a vertical position by a pneumatic cylinder fitted with a pressure regulator.

4. Device according to claim 1, characterised in that said longitudinal central guide is linked to said touching group so as to find itself normally in

an inclined position in relation to the horizontal position, being fitted with means for commanding its movement to said horizontal position.

5. Device according to claim 1, characterised in that said longitudinal central guide is linked to said touching group so as to result vertically tilting in relation to said horizontal position.